

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claim Amendment Summary

Claims pending

- Before this Amendment: Claims 1-39.
- After this Amendment: Claims 1-12, 14-21, 23-32 and 34-42

Non-Elected, Canceled, or Withdrawn claims: Claims 13, 22 and 33

Amended claims: Claims 1, 3-7, 9-12, 14-20, 23-27, 29-32 and 34-39

New claims: Claims 40-42

Claims:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method comprising:

receiving source information from at least one source of one or more television programs, the source information describing one or more broadcast events that can occur during a time period within which television programs are broadcast;

evaluating the source information against user information that gives an indication of broadcast events that are of interest to a user; and

sending a notification to one or more users if, as a result of said evaluating, it appears that the one or more users would be interested in said one or more broadcast events, the notification being sent via one of: an email, a facsimile or a pager; and

making one or more broadcast events available to one or more users if, as a result of said evaluating, it appears that the one or more users would be interested in said one or more broadcast events.

2. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, wherein one or more broadcast events do not pertain to information associated with the television programs.

3. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 1, wherein the act of making one or more broadcast events available to one or more users comprises displaying one or more broadcast events for a user.

4. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 1, wherein the act of making one or more broadcast events available to one or more users comprises recording one or more broadcast events for a user.

5. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 1, wherein said acts are performed by a television set.

6. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 1, wherein said acts are performed by a set-top box.

7. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving source information from at least one source of one or more television programs, the source information describing one or more broadcast events that can occur during a time period within which the television programs are broadcast;

evaluating the source information against user information that gives an indication of broadcast events that are of interest to a user; and

sending a notification to one or more users if, as a result of said evaluating, it appears that the one or more users would be interested in said one or more broadcast events, the notification being sent via one of: an email, a facsimile or a pager; and

~~making one or more broadcast events available to one or more users, users if, as a result of said evaluating, it appears that the one or more users would be interested in said one or more broadcast events said act of the making being performed independent of whether a user is operating a television on which the television programs can be played.~~

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein one or more broadcast events do not pertain to information associated with the television programs.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein ~~the act of~~ making one or more broadcast events available to one or more users comprises recording one or more broadcast events for a user.

10. (Currently Amended) A television set configured to perform the ~~The method of claim 7, wherein said acts are performed by a television set.~~

11. (Currently Amended) A set-top box configured to perform the ~~The method of claim 7, wherein said acts are performed by a set-top box.~~

12. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving user information from a user, the user information describing one or more broadcast events that can occur during a time period in which television programs are broadcast;

receiving source information from one or more sources of television programs;

evaluating the source information to determine whether any of the one or more broadcast events that have been specified by a user occur; and

if one or more broadcast events occur, sending a notification to one or more users, the notification being sent via one of: an email, a facsimile or a pager; and

~~if one or more broadcast events occur, making an occurring broadcast event available for a user to watch.~~

13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the act of making an occurring broadcast even available for user to watch comprises recording an occurring broadcast event.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the said acts of receiving source information, evaluating and making occur independent of whether a television on which programs can be played is turned on for playing programs.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the said acts of receiving source information, evaluating and making are performed by a television.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the said acts of receiving, evaluating and making are performed by a set top box.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the said acts of receiving source information, evaluating and making are performed relative to a television program that the user is not currently watching is not currently being displayed.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the said acts of receiving source information, evaluating and making are performed relative to a television program that the user is not currently watching is not

being played and during a time period when a different television program is playing on a television.

20. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving source information from at least one source of one or more television programs, the source information describing one or more subjects that can occur during a time period within which the one or more television programs are broadcast;

evaluating the source information against user information that gives an indication of subjects that are of interest to a user; and

sending a first notification to one or more users if, as a result of said evaluating, it appears that the one or more users would be interested in a specified television program;

sending an additional notification to the one or more users, indicating the occurrence of one or more specific subjects, wherein each of the one or more specific subjects occurs during a time period within which the specified television program is broadcast; and

~~making one or more subjects available to one or more users if, as a result of said evaluating, it appears that the one or more users would be interested in said one or more subjects.~~

21. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein said one or more subjects do not pertain to subjects presented in the television programs.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein ~~the act of~~ making one or more subjects available to one or more users comprises displaying information associated with one or more subjects for a user.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein ~~the act of~~ making one or more subjects available to one or more users comprises recording information associated with one or more subjects for a user.

25. (Currently Amended) A television set configured to perform the The method of claim 20, wherein said acts are performed by a television set.

26. (Currently Amended) A set-top box configured to perform the The method of claim 20, wherein said acts are performed by a set-top box.

27. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving source information from at least one source of one or more television programs, the source information describing one or more subjects that can occur during a time period within which the one or more television programs are broadcast;

evaluating the source information against user information that gives an indication of subjects that are of interest to a user; and

sending a first notification to one or more users if, as a result of said evaluating, it appears that the one or more users would be interested in a specified television program;

sending an additional notification to the one or more users, indicating the occurrence of one or more specific subjects, wherein each of the one or more specific subjects occurs during a time period within which the specified television program is broadcast; and

~~making one or more subjects available to one or more users if, as a result of said evaluating, it appears that the one or more users would be interested in said one or more subjects, said act of making being performed independent of whether a user is watching a television program as it is being broadcast.~~

28. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein said one or more subjects do not pertain to information presented by the television program.

29. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 27, wherein the act of making one or more subjects available to one or more users comprises recording information associated with one or more subjects for a user.

30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 27, ~~wherein said acts~~ are performed by a television set.

31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 27, ~~wherein said acts~~ are performed by a set-top box.

32. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving user information from a user, the user information describing one or more subjects that can occur during a time period in which one or more television programs are broadcast;

receiving source information from a source of television programs;

evaluating the source information to determine whether any of the one or more subjects that have been specified by a user occur; and

sending a first notification to the user if, as a result of said evaluating, it appears that the user would be interested in a specified television program;

sending an additional notification to the user, indicating the occurrence of one or more specific subjects, wherein each of the one or more specific subjects occurs during a time period within which the specified television program is broadcast; and

~~in an event one or more subjects occur,~~ making information associated with an occurring subject available for a user to watch.

33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 32, wherein the act of making information associated with an occurring subject available for a user to

watch comprises recording information associated with said one or more subjects.

35. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 32, wherein the said acts-of receiving source information, evaluating and making occur independent of whether a user is watching television programs.

36. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 32, wherein the said acts-of receiving source information, evaluating and making are performed by a television.

37. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 32, wherein the said acts-of receiving, evaluating and making are performed by a set top box.

38. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 32, wherein the said acts-of receiving source information, evaluating and making are performed relative to a television program that the user is not currently watching being displayed.

39. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 32, wherein the said acts-of receiving source information, evaluating and making are performed

relative to a television program that the user is not currently watching running on a television and during a time period when a different television program is running on a the television.

40. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein the notifications are sent to the user via one of email, facsimile and pager.

41. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the notifications are sent to the user via one of email, facsimile and pager.

42. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the notifications are sent to the user via one of email, facsimile and pager.